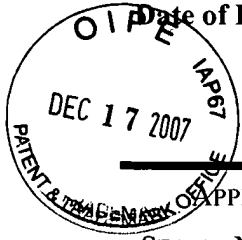


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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS : Blackburn et al.

CONFIRMATION NUMBER : 4288

SERIAL NUMBER : 09/967,321

EXAMINER : Ann Y. Lam

FILING DATE : 10/01/2001

ART UNIT : 1641

FOR : **METHODS**

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION  
DATED JUNE 15, 2007**

In response to the non-final Office Action mailed on June 15, 2007, Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of the following Amendment and Response under 37 C.F.R. §1.111. Also submitted herewith is a Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) and the fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(3) for a small entity. With this extension, the Amendment and Response is considered timely filed by December 17, 2007.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.